UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS

Civil Action No: 04-12601-PBS

Maksim Lutskov, Petitioner.

v.

Lois Russo, Respondent.

<u>ORDER</u>

SARIS, D.J.

Pursuant to Rule 4 of the Rules Governing Section 2254 cases, a copy of the Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus is hereby served by certified mail, return receipt requested, upon the Respondent and the Attorney General for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

The Respondent shall, within 20 days of the receipt of this Order, file an answer (or other proper responsive pleading) to the Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus.

This Court further requests the Respondent, as part of the return, to file such documents which reflect on issue as to whether Petitioner(s) exhausted available state remedies with respect to the matters raised by the Petition.

By the Court,

/s/ Robert C. Alba Deputy Clerk

December 20, 2004

Copies to: Cathryn A. Neaves, Asst. Attorney General

Office of the Attorney General

One Ashburton Place

Boston, MA 02108 (w/encs.)

Petitioner Respondent